

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 5957

號七百九十五第

日三十月一十年子丙午光

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28th, 1876.

四拜禮

號八十二日二十英

港香

PRICE \$25 PER MONTH.

Arrivals.

December 20. CONQUEROR, British str., 317. Anderson, Haiphong 23rd Dec. Goum. ml.—CHINESE.
December 26. OCEAN, British steamer, 997. Jacques, Newcastle, N.S.W., 23rd Dec. and Cooktown 10th General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
December 26. TEJO, Portuguese gunboat, 300. Captain F. Amaral, Macao 20th Dec.
December 27. FONTENAY, British ship, 634. Geo. B. Taylor, Bangkok 4th December. Rio—CHINESE.
December 27. YUNG-CHING, Chinese steamer, 661. Gibson, Canton 26th Dec. Goum. ml.—C. M. S. N. Co.

Clearances.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE, DECEMBER 27th.
Rajahannathur, British str., for Bangkok. Yung-ching, Chinese steamer, for Amoy and Shanghai.
General, British steamer, for Amoy.
Namo, British steamer, for East Coast.
Ching-chang, British steamer, for Shanghai.
Phinlai, British steamer, for Yokohama.
Andrea, German bark, for London.
Decouer, British steamer, for Singapore and London.

Departures.

December 27. ELLIOT, British brig, for Macao.
December 27. ESMERALDA, British str., for Amoy.
December 27. NORDEN, Danish steamer, for Saigon.
December 27. CHINKANG, British str., for Shanghai.

Passengers.

ARRIVED.
Per Ocean, str., from Newcastle, N.S.W.—Mr. and Mrs. Asik, children and servants, and 93 Chinese.
Per Conqueror, str., from Haiphong—25 Chinese.
Per Shanghai, DEPARTED.
Per China, str., for Amoy.
Per Chinkang, str., from Shanghai—20 Chinese.
TO DEPART.
THE DWELLING HOUSE, No. 4, Alexandra Terrace, December 27th.
THE DWELLING HOUSE, No. 2, Gough Street, December 27th.
The DWELLING HOUSE, No. 4, Gough Street, Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co. of 1864 Hongkong, 8th November, 1876.

REPORTS.

The British ship *Pompey* reports left Bangkok on 4th December, and had strong winds and heavy N.E. set throughout.

The British steamer *Conqueror* reports left Haiphong on 23rd December, and had moderate monsoon and fine weather. In Haiphong, the bark *Appling* loading for Hongkong, and the schooner *Louise* for Tournon.

The British steamer *Ocean* reported from Nagasaki on the 10th, and had fine weather, until reaching the Suma. She then strong head winds and a heavy sea, between Manila and the Izu Shores had a heavy N.E. set, and a tremendous cross sea. On the 19th instant, passed the steamer *Lydia* near of Newcastle, and a steamer, supposed to be the *Mecca*, both bound South.

FOOCHOW SHIPPING.
December 27. ARRIVED.
15. Dukes, German str., from Shanghai.
16. Namo, British steamer, from Hongkong.
17. Hornet, British gun-boat, from Tamsui.
18. Oregon, British steamer, from Shanghai.
19. Etna, British steamer, from Chusan.
20. E. M. Murch, British str., from Chusan.
21. Duxon, British str., from Shanghai.
22. Etna, American steamer, for Nagasaki.
23. Namo, British steamer, for Hongkong.
24. Galatea, German steamer, for London.
25. Europa, British steamer, for Shanghai.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING.
December 27. ARRIVED.
15. Taka, British steamer, from Tientsin.
16. Hirado, American steamer, from Nagasaki.
17. San Nambu, British str., from Nagasaki.
18. Namo, Japanese str., from Nagasaki.
19. Luton, British bark, from Nagasaki.
20. Pantah, Chinese steamer, from Chusan.
21. Shanghai, British steamer, from Haiphong.
22. Etna, British steamer, from Hongkong.
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NOW PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION
THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
FOR 1877.

This Work, the over one of the kind in China or Japan, is now in the

FIFTEENTH YEAR
of its existence, and will be published as soon as practicable after the close of the current year.

It has been compiled from the most authentic sources, and no pains have been spared to render it thoroughly reliable both as a Directory and as a Work of Reference on Commercial Matters.

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CHEMISTS,
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GOVERNOR and his Royal Highness the
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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 28TH, 1876.

The crime of infanticide was formerly supposed to be very commonly practised in China, and to be in some sort tolerated by law. Many exaggerations have been published in connection with this subject, and Chinese parents described as unnatural monsters devoid of parental feeling or of any affection for their female offspring. But subsequent examination has proved that Chinese parents are not so heartless and cruel as was popularly supposed, and that infanticide, though very prevalent in many districts, is not so systematically practised as stated by early writers on China and her people. The prevalence of the crime is, in point of fact, due entirely to the poverty of the parents, and it is more common in poor agricultural districts. In the more prosperous cities infanticide is but seldom committed, partly because the people are more readily obtain employment and earn higher wages, and partly from the greater difficulty attending the concealment of the deed. The authorities often take no notice of the prevalence of the crime, but it is a punishable offence when found out, and some officials use vigorous efforts to bring such cases to light. In times of scarcity there is invariably a marked increase in the crime, and this cause has no doubt operated to produce such a result in the province of Fukien. At all events, the Profet and magistrates of Foochow have recently issued a stringent proclamation against the practice. This document provides that all parents guilty of destroying their child shall be punished according to the law against the destruction of descendants. By this law, it would seem, a penalty of sixty blows with the bamboo and a year's imprisonment is imposed on the parent, while a midwife who destroys a child is punishable by strangulation. Further than this, the neighbours who know of the commission of the crime and fail to report it are liable to be punished as accessories to murder, as are the keepers. It will be seen, therefore, that the law in China is severe against female infanticide, and that the prevalence of the crime is owing to the law manner in which the provisions of the law are administered rather than from any defect in the law itself. Similarly the crime is perpetrated more from the pressure of wanting from any want of natural parental feeling. The struggle to live is so extremely keen in many parts of China that the addition of one to a family often proves the last straw, and drives the parents to the commission of a shocking and unnatural crime. In these eyes, too, the crime does not assume half so serious a aspect as it does in those of Christian people. It is to be regretted that the Chinese Government is so utterly incompetent to grapple with any great social problem. The increase of population in China is constant except when checked—as it occurs by famine, flood, or civil war, but there are no other checks by the authorities for the ever-increasing surplus population. Thousands of the Chinese go to the Straits, to the Netherlands Indies, to Australia, and to the Pacific States of America, but the emigration by no means keeps pace with the natural increase of population, and is only of a spasmodic and temporary character, the emigrants almost invariably returning in the course of a few years. Or, as more than any other country, she obtains the redundant population, and unless she obtains the people must necessarily grow poorer yearly.

or the increase of population he stayed by inaction. The Government certainly does not sanction this shameful crime, yet fails to take any steps to promote emigration among the people. The more thinly populated provinces have lately been filling up, and Manchuria is also being rapidly settled by Chinese, who will soon outnumber the Turcs there. But unless new industries are speedily created in China, or immigration organised on a large scale, there is every reason to believe that the Empire will suffer greatly from over-population. There are many countries where the Chinese would be gladly welcomed. Peru will no doubt shortly be ready to receive large numbers, and Brazil, which only requires labour to render it one of the richest countries in the world, could absorb some fifty millions of Celestial emigrants. It is a miserable condition of things when the people are induced to number their helpless ones, offering an order to keep down their families. In many lands, the same people would find their property an assistance rather than a burden, and it is to be hoped, for the sake of the Chinese, that the Government of Peking may soon be brought to see the policy of encouraging emigration from the Flowered Land to new and undeveloped countries where the industry and energy of the thrifty sons of Han may find a good and profitable field.

The people of the North of China are not only ones suffering from famine in this part of the world. The Coreans are—if the Japanese native journals have correct information—also in great want of food supplies. The *Hochi Shimpo* says that all the rice in Corea has been consumed, including that which should have been reserved for next year, and the mass of the people are now without the means of subsistence. The Corean Government, with the obstinate stupidity characteristic of it, at first refused to allow rice to be imported from Japan, but was at length compelled by urgent necessity to allow this to be done. No mention is made of the cause of the emptiness of the crops in Corea, but it may be safely presumed that drought prevailed there as in Shantung and Chihli. The calamity will inevitably lead to impoverish the country—which at the best of times is too poor to purchase luxuries—and will serve to restrict the trade recently commenced with it by Japan. The latter country will, however, be able to dispose of its surplus, though probably not at a very high rate, as the Coreans are unable to pay a fancy price. It is fortunate for them, however, that they can draw supplies from Japan, for China is certainly in no condition to help them.The barque *Johann en Willem* cleared from Sydney for Shantung on the 1st ultmo.The barque *Maid of Juilin*, from Foochow, arrived at Sydney, New South Wales, on the 21st ultmo.The British barque *Albert Pilot* arrived at Sydney, New South Wales, from Foochow, on the 19th ultmo.The P. and O. steamer *Khiva*, with the next outward mails, left Singapore for Hongkong at 8 p.m. on 25th instant.

There will be an inspection and parade of the Government and Volunteer Fire Brigades at the cross roads at 5 p.m. to-day.

At the present of the P. and O. Mail Company has received information that the steamer *City of Rio* left Yokohama for this port of duty yesterday.At the Marine Magistrate's Court, yesterday, W. B. Davis, A. Symonds and W. H. Johnson, senior of the British Consular Staff, Pintchow, also a member of the Consular Staff, conducted on board the *City of Rio* the first two defendants who had been held in *cool* four days before. The first prisoner was sentenced to one month's hard labour, and the second to seven days, and to be flogged ten strokes. The third prisoner was remanded until the 1st January, and a warrant issued for the arrest of his husband.

The subscription to the widow and children of the late Captain O'Brien is now complete. The sum of £1,000 was collected in the Colony, and £1,000 was sent to the widow by the P. and O. Company.

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LITERARY AND ART GOSSIP.

PESTS FOR THE SULTAN.
The number of periodical publications in Italy now amounts to 1,126, of which 392 appear daily.

The Academy states that Dr. Emil Wohlwill has sent to publish a paper on the question "Whether Giulio was tortured by the Inquisition."

Mr. Ruskin is occupied at Venice in studies for the compilation of a supplementary volume to "The Stones of Venice," a work in which he has made considerable progress.

The death is announced of the Polish historian, Dr. J. Bielowski, director of the Ossoliuk National Institute at Lemberg, and editor of the "Monumenta Polonica Historica."

The subscription for the Liebieg monument is now closed. There has been raised a sum of 140,000 marks, which is to be employed in the erection of monuments both at Munich and Glees.

Miss F. H. Fawcett and Hugo, of 122, Piccadilly, London, have in the press a small brochure entitled "The Scarecrow; and other Poems and Pictures for the Times," opposite of the recent account of impalement by the Turks.

The long-principled edition of the Greek Testament, in which Professor Westcott and Mr. Hort have been engaged for nearly 20 years, is now fully prepared for publication, and the sheets in the typography are actually in the printer's hands—Athens.

Mr. de Rochas, of Paris, is preparing an important work entitled "Les Parcs de France et d'Espagne." M. de Rocha's conclusion is that the Chats, &c., are not a special race, but merely the descendants of leopards and others, confined to the forests.

Mr. W. H. Ward, of London, has announced the discovery of the circulation of the blood. His claim to that distinction was maintained by Professor Solzzi, who also dwelt upon his merits as a botanist, mineralogist, and master of industrial research.

Mr. Libbey has terminated his connection with the "World." He was the writer of the article, "How Political Parties are Organized," which appeared in that journal under the heading "In the City." The contributions now appearing under the same head-line are by various writers.

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Letters have been received from Napier which indicate the recent death of that poet of Sigma, Luigi Santini. Sir N. Schaubriant was the writer of the protest which was the signal for the insurrection against the Bourbons in 1848. He was also the author of a history of the "French Revolution" and of "Rome in 1848," his subject being "The Martyr of Hippo."

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Vessels Advertised as Loading.

DESTINATION	VEHICLE'S NAME	CAPACITY	AT	FOR FREIGHT APPLY TO	TO BE DISPATCHED
LONDON	Glenfinnan (arr.)	Wilson		Jardine, Matheson & Co.	Quick despatch.
	Orbier	Stater	Hongkong	Moyer & Co.	Quick despatch.
	Andrea	Peters	Hongkong	Moyer & Co.	Quick despatch.
HAMBURG	Polka	Bowden	Hongkong	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.	Quick despatch.
	Parana	Lilied	Hongkong	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.	Quick despatch.
	Parana	Morby	Hongkong	O. & O. S. Co.	Quick despatch.
NEW YORK	Parana	Parana	Hongkong	P. M. S. S. Co.	In 15th prox. at 3 P.M.
SAN FRANCISCO AND HAMMAM	Parana	Parana	Hongkong	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.	In 2d prox. at 3 P.M.
WELLSBURG AND SYDNEY	Parana	Parana	Hongkong	Rozario & Co.	Quick despatch.
	Parana	Giese	Hongkong	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.	Quick despatch.
DUNEDIN	Parana	Vineel	Hongkong	P. & O. S. Co.	Quick despatch.
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, &c.	Parana	Gauvan	Hongkong	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On 2d prox. at noon
SINGAPORE, BILBAO, &c.	Parana	Muller	Hongkong	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On 4th prox. at noon
BOMBAY, KOLKATA, &c.	Parana	Krebs	Hongkong	Compagnie Maritime	Quick despatch.
YOKOHAMA	Parana	Parana	Hongkong	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Quick despatch.
PARANA	Parana	Parana	Hongkong	Parana	Quick despatch.
SHANGHAI	Parana	Parana	Hongkong	Parana	Quick despatch.
TAKAO, AMOKA, POOCHOW	Parana	Dioned (arr.)	Hongkong	Parana	Quick despatch.
SWATOW, AMOKA, POOCHOW	Parana	Khiva (arr.)	Hongkong	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On 2d prox. at noon
	Parana	Jensen	Hongkong	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On 2d prox. at noon
	Parana	Abbott	Hongkong	Douglas, Laporte & Co.	On 2d prox. at noon

For Sale.

For Sale.

Vessels on the Berth.

Vessels on the Berth.

FOR TAKAO.

THE German Schooner "BENEDICTA"	Master, will be despatched as above at the end of this month.
For Freight or Passage apply to	W. M. FUSIAU & Co.
2026 Hongkong, 23d December, 1876.	Agent.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAISSTEAMER FOR
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BILBAO, HAMMAM, POINT
DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMALIA, PORT
SAID, NAPLES, AND
MAURITIUS.

Letters may be forwarded to India by
Postage, but can only be paid off as Ceylon.

Postage to Ceylon must be prepaid.

Such letters should be mailed "Paid to Ceylon."

The following will be to the hours of closing the
Mails, &c.

WEDNESDAY, the 26th instant.

5 A.M. Post Office closes. Post
Office boxes except the Nourie Box,
which remains open all night.

TUESDAY, 25th instant.

7 A.M. Post Office opens for sale of
Stamp Registry of Letters, and Post
Office of all correspondence.

10 A.M. Registry of Post Office closes except
for Late Mail.

11 A.M. Post Office opens for sale of
Stamp Registry of Letters.

11.30 A.M. Letters (but Letters only) addressed
to the United Kingdom or to Singa-
pore, may be posted on payment of a
late fee of 10 cents extra postage.

11.30 P.M. when the Post Office CLOSES
entirely.

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.

The French Contract Packet "IRANALADDY"
will be despatched on THURSDAY, the 28th
instant, with Mails to and through the United
States and Europe, "Marsella" to
Singapore, Batavia, Galle, Australia, New
Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji, Aden, Seychelles,
Mauritius, &c., and Ceylon.

Letters may be paid off as far as Ceylon.

The postage to Ceylon must be prepaid.

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MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES.

The Steamship "DELICIE" will be despatched
on THURSDAY, the 26th January, 1877, with
Mails for Japan, San Francisco, the United
States, and London, which will be CLOSED

2 P.M. Registry of Letters.

2.30 P.M. Post Office closes.

2.30 P.M. Correspondence may be posted

EXTRACTS.

THE AMBISTOLE.

The clouds are red—the winter sun arises over the frozen snows. And when swallows call Sets and Park march proudly to and fro. The silent sentry only stands, his rifle at his heel. The world is death-like, no foot has seen the garter of the silent snows. No man has heard the roll of drums, nor bugle's shrilling blast. No more is heard the horses' command—the din of war is past. The music of an Arion's glories waits on all—On all but those who lie all beyond the laurel-call: So Park, and Sets, and mighty Rus, they stand, and hide their shame.

With Gorchowoff and Tschirnau shall the hawks away.

Which bird their hunting, deeply in blood, and set them front to front?

With the pullers of the strings of battle bear the brunt.

The Prince is at his last from fair Avrora's shore.

Tschirnau-Selov will wear the Czar's Diamond at your

And Belgrade claims Milan again, the feebly cupped King.

Until Christendom once more the battle-cry shall ring.

"An Arion's!"—The endless war vibrates with silent shame.

To send from East to West the heralds in each name.

For while the lightning flashes on "A Trace," the

Of Russia's hounds outwailing seek to break the peace-ful field.

And Europe trembles, but the spark which now burns dull and low.

Should fan'd by diplomatic breath, set all the world

With a spark, the world is at a boil.

The sun is in each Statesman's hand, the sword in each

mind.

And so a Monarch dares to give a feeling look behind.

A weary time! The Nation waits like greyhounds on

in hand.

As I sit the din of tongues, as surf breaks on the

strand!

They mutter "Peace!" But there's no Peace when all

A truly manly heart can't find time so before to day.

While the storm has fall'd yet o'er the red and

hurly sky.

The war-clouds rush, and through the air grim shadows

hurry.

And Russia's march, and hawks like phasianes over

the sea.

And Russia's host accusses the East that "Asia must

be fire."

—Whist!

CENTRAL AFRICA.

A strange misconception exists as to the real climate of the equator, and may be easily corrected here. Heat and humidity are the chronic condition of the whole of Central Africa. The month of April alone affords a slight respite, during which time

the heat is excessive, but the nights are

always cold; the scarcity of wood rendering

the natives really miserable at night. Dur

ing other months incessant rains fall;

the day is damp and humid, but the nights are

very cold. When, however, the sun breaks

through the clouds its rays are almost impa

table. On the east coast, on the equa

torial line, the seasons are affected by the

monsoon winds that blow north-east, and

south-west, for the six months of the year—a

dry wind and a wet wind. The former may

be supported by the European, but the lat

ter is the precursor of all disease, and espe

cially of consumption, to which the world

submit.

Central Africa is a vacuum.—From Central Africa:

"Naked Truths of Naked People," by Colonel

G. C. Long.

FAMILY STATUTES.

Cronaca is now eclipsed. An enterpr

ing scientist has invented a process by which

human bodies are turned into a marble-like

substance, called "cristaria." In his pro

spect, the enigma of the undeciphered agents

by which he methodized every house can become

gradually embellished with statues of the

deceased members, as durable as the stone

and truly and firmly set in you where

the gemlet was, and you never had one

in the house, which is a bold falsehood, as I

can prove." "Gimlet," she gasped. "Yes,

stated. "Why, I know there are three or

four. You said cords!" "Did I?" he

gasped, sitting down on the corner of the

table; "well, now, I believe I did." And

you went and abased me like a slave because

I wouldn't say gimlet was a corkscrew, she

sobbed filling on the lounge. "Nancy," said

she, tenderly lifting her up. "Oh Richard,

she, chuckling, answered. "Nancy, I'll x

right off doors and kill myself!" "No,

you needn't—I love you still—only, only

you know a gemlet's not a corkscrew." "It

ain't, it ain't, Nancy; forgive me and let us

be happy. And that household is so quietly

happy a canary bird would sing its head off

if hung in the hall."—*Daubary News.*

ON HER DIGNITY.

They were fond of each other, very, and had been engaged. But they quarrelled, and were too proud to make it up. He called a few days ago at her father's house—to see the old gentleman, of course. She answered his ring at the door bell. Said he, "A Miss—believe, is your father within?" "No, sir," she replied. "Pa is not in at present. Did you wish to see him personally?" "Yes, Miss," was his blunt response, feeling that she was yielding, "of very particular personal business." And he proudly turned to go away. "I beg your pardon," she called out after him as he struck the lower step, "but who shall I say called?" He never smiled again.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

1028, Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

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